

This letter represents the thoughts and opinions of Montana Associated Students (MAS). Made up of the student executives from each Montana University System campus, MAS works in an advisory capacity with the Board of Regents. As stewards of the Montana Constitution, legislators know better than most that the Board of Regents serve as the governing body for the Montana University System. Each of their decisions impacts intimately the quality of student experience academically, culturally, and physically in the Montana University System.

As representatives of the nearly 50,000 students currently enrolled in the university system, we are passionate about ensuring that those individuals confirmed to the board are knowledgeable, thoughtful, and above all, willing to consider the quality of the student experience in each decision they make. Each of us has worked closely with the regents throughout our terms of service and feel that we can speak knowledgeably when supporting the candidates presently up for confirmation.

Jeff Krauss: Of utmost importance to Montana students and families alike is college affordability. Jeff Krauss has dedicated his time and comments on the board to the critical task of ensuring that students are not graduating with unreasonable debt. His comments have been thoughtful and are often grounded in his past and present leadership experience, which include Mayor of the City of Bozeman and CFO of the Museum of Rockies. Additionally, he has worked closely with student leaders on many projects, often going out of his way to get to know and be of service to us. He is an incredible asset to the Board of Regents and the Montana University System. **Montana Associated Students encourages legislators to confirm Gov. Schweitzer's appointee Jeff Krauss to the Montana Board of Regents.**

Pat Williams: Pat Williams is a leadership legend in Montana with decades of service as our State's Representative as well as serving in a variety of leadership capacities for organizations across the state and nation. In his current role as Regent his wealth of government experience, much of it focused around education, has proved very valuable, ensuring the Board is aware of the big picture and the potential long-term effects of Board decisions. His comments cover a range of topics, but he often speaks eloquently of the responsibility that the Board has to students. He very visibly strives to make students more than just stakeholders, encouraging them to be active participants in the governance of the university system. Always, Williams strives to be realistic in his perception of the MUS and OCHE and is refreshingly honest and forthcoming with his thoughts and questions. **Montana Associated Students encourages legislators to confirm Gov. Schweitzer's appointee Pat Williams to the Montana Board of Regents.**

Paul Tuss: Paul Tuss's diverse experiences in economic development provide the board with an important direct connection with the economic future of rural Montana. Tuss thinks critically about economic development opportunities, and his work and comments on the board have helped to ensure that our universities and graduates do well for Montana. He has lived in numerous small communities in Montana, presently residing in Havre. This experience affords him a distinct understanding of how important the University System is to small town Montana. **Montana Associated Students**

encourages legislators to confirm Gov. Bullock's appointee Paul Tuss to the Montana Board of Regents.

Major Robinson: Like Tuss, Major Robinson is a specialist in economic development. His experience has spanned the public and private sectors and has had a specific impact on Native American communities in Montana. While the Board of Regents does not oversee the 7 tribal colleges, many students from Tribal Colleges transfer into the Montana University System. It is critical that we have members of the board that have a substantive understanding of tribal communities in the state to ensure that the campuses in the Montana University System provide the services necessary students transferring from Tribal Colleges succeed. **Montana Associated Students encourages legislators to confirm Gov. Bullock's appointee Major Robinson to the Montana Board of Regents.**

Thank you for the consideration of these phenomenal individuals for the Montana Board of Regents.

Sincerely,
ASMSU
ASUM
ASUM HC
ASUM W
ASMT
ASMSU B
ASMSU GC